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LETTER DATED 26 JANUARY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Omar Mustafa Muntasser, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation (see annex). The letter speaks for itself.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abuzed Omar DORDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

[Original: Arabic]

Letter dated 22 January 1998 from the Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya addressed to the President of the Security Council

Over the past two days, Israel has received from the United States of America the first two of the 25 F-15 fighters the United States plans to deliver. These aircraft fly at speeds of up to two and a half times the speed of sound and have a range of 4,000 kilometres.

This new and dangerous measure, taken by a State that is a permanent member of the Security Council, once again proves that the United States Administration continues to apply a double standard. Indeed, while the United States supplies all kinds of offensive weapons to a State that refuses to implement Security Council resolutions and flouts all General Assembly resolutions, and while it allows that State to strengthen its capacities and its nuclear, bacteriological and biological arsenals in order to threaten Arab States, including the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, it has imposed an embargo on all types of defensive weapons for Arab countries, such as the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Iraq and the Sudan.

The aforementioned delivery of combat aircraft is part of the unlimited military support that the United States provides to Israel in order to enable it to maintain its military superiority in the region, pursue its policy of terror against the Palestinian people, continue to occupy foreign territory by force and violate international legitimacy. The United States Administration's allegations that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya engages in terror are completely false. Indeed, that Administration's policy and the assistance that it provides to a terrorist State that is threatening peace, security and stability in the region, strip its accusations of all credibility and deprive the United States, a country that favours recourse to force, threats and blackmail, of any right to act as arbitrator in the settlement of regional and international conflicts and problems.

We have already drawn the Security Council's attention to the United States Government's regrettable political machinations. As we send you another warning and express our surprise at the new and dangerous measure that the United States Administration has had the audacity to take, we wish to inform you that the delivery of the F-15 fighters confirms our right of self-defence under Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations and obliges the Council to fulfil the role incumbent on it in such situations.

(Signed) Omar Mustafa MUNTASSER
Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation

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